

MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

**Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities
and Substance Abuse Services
Holiday Inn North Raleigh (2805 Highwoods Boulevard)**

Thursday, October 2, 2003

Attending:

Commission/Committee Members: Don Stedman, Chairman, Pender McElroy, Dorothy Rose Crawford, Lou Adkins, Ellen Holliman, Martha Macon, Marvin Swartz, Laura Coker, Emily Moore, Anna Scheyett, Floyd McCullouch

Ex-Officio Member: Steve Jordan for Bob Hedrick, Jennifer Sullivan

Excused: Patricia Chamings, Pearl Finch, Paul H. Gulley, Raymond Reddrick, Judy Lewis, Bernard Sullivan, Jr., Ann Suggs

Others: Don Willis, Peggy Balak, Susan Collins, Stephanie Alexander, Jack Blackley, M.D., Don Willis, Lisa Gilbert, Melissa Parker, Dennis Bradshaw, John Crawford

Handouts: Agenda; July 10, 2003 Minutes; Resolution on Use of Funds from Sale of Dix Property; Minutes of the Sub-Committee on Housing Meeting September 18, 2003; Memo from Rich Visingardi to Area Program Directors, et. al., re Division's Deputy Director; NMHA Department of Government Affairs Report to the Board of Directors August 2003; Memo from Bob Hedrick to Don Stedman re Priority Issues for the Advisory Committee, Residential Services, Inc. Vision/Mission/Brochure

Welcome and Introductions

Don Stedman, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. All attending made introductions.

Approval of Minutes

Emily Moore made a motion to approve the July 10, 2003 Advisory Committee Minutes. Marvin Swartz, provided a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Announcements by Pender McElroy

Pender McElroy informed the Committee members of the appointment of two new members of the Commission. Laura Coker will serve on the Advisory Committee and Mazie Fleetwood will serve on the Rules Committee.

He announced that Joe Coulter of Charlotte resigned from the Commission. The Governor's Office will be notified of the vacancy.

Mr. McElroy introduced and welcomed Jennifer Sullivan as a new ex-officio member of the Advisory Committee.

Peggy Balak will send the Chair recently received information on the new appointment from the Senate to fill a vacancy.

Mr. McElroy informed the members that the N. C. Council of Community Programs has reduced registration fees for four members of the Commission to attend their November Conference. Registration was reduced from \$345 to \$220. Don Willis said the Division would help with reimbursement of hotel and travel fees. Please let Ms. Balak know by the middle of October if you would like to attend. Dorothy Crawford noted that Marvin Swartz is on the conference program.

Mr. McElroy announced to the Commission the resignation of Tara Larson from the Division to take a position with DIRM. He distributed a letter from the Division Director on Ms. Larson's departure and he read a note from Ms. Larson to the Commission members expressing her appreciation for the Commission's support and commitment to people with disabilities.

Review, Discussion and Action on Proposal of Housing Sub-Committee

Dr. Stedman informed the Committee members the Sub-Committee on Housing had completed its work and presented its plan (see handout) to the Committee. The plan is to form a Task Force on Housing of the Commission for MH/DD/SAS to review the housing situation in North Carolina and make recommendations to the Commission and to the Secretary of DHHS. The Task Force will be small (12-15 members) with two Co-Chairs. Task Force membership will include both Commission and non-Commission members with knowledge of housing. Dr. Stedman noted that Phil Kirk of North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry (NCCBI) offered advice on forming the Task Force.

Dr. Stedman mentioned the Division's Housing Plan of January 1996. He will have it distributed to members of the Commission (attached).

Dr. Stedman outlined the meeting of 9/29/03 with Julia Bick, Peggy Balak and Stephanie Alexander. Julia Bick will be in a consulting and resource role, and the Division Affairs Team will staff the Task Force. It is expected that the Task Force will meet monthly, up to six times, probably beginning in December. A schedule of upcoming Task Force meetings will be determined at the December meeting and will be handed out to Commission members.

A report should be completed by June to give to the Secretary and the Chair of the Commission. It was suggested that targets should include an executive report to the General Assembly.

Dr. Stedman reported that he is interested in having the Task Force seek support from a private foundation (\$25,000) to contract with a small media company to develop a presentation package.

It was agreed to have a variety of people join the Task Force. Ellen Holliman said Representative Hugh Holliman would like to serve on the Task Force. Numerous groups and organizations were discussed, but Dr. Stedman advised the Committee the group would be small. One suggestion is that the Consumer Family Advisory Committee is cross disability and is a good place to look for a person who is a consumer. Using the Technical Assistance Collaborative for their expertise on housing was suggested.

The importance of housing and housing services for people with low income and disabilities was discussed.

Transportation as a related issue was discussed.

Dr. Stedman will Co-Chair the Task Force, along with a non-member of the Commission. When the other Co-Chair is determined, they will meet with the Chair of the Commission, to identify membership and announce them by November 24, as well as have as many as possible present at the November 24 Commission meeting.

Cost for this effort from the Division will consist predominantly of food, travel, communication supplies and printing. Budgeting a consultant was also suggested. Don Willis stated that a budget proposal needs to be drafted as soon as possible and it can be included in the packet for review by the Commission for their November meeting. Peggy Balak agreed to do a budget proposal. The focus is on a small number of outcomes/recommendations.

Members of the Commission would like to get Julia Bick's Housing PowerPoint presentation distributed (attached).

Dr. Stedman will revise the notes on the Sub-Committee for Housing from the Advisory Committee meeting and get them out as minutes to everyone and hopes the Commission will adopt the revised plan, along with the budget proposal.

Don Willis made a commitment to provide staff support for this issue.

Following is the link to the web site for the Duke Long Term Care Resources Program:

www.ltc.duke.edu

Discussion on Priority Setting for Advisory Committee Issues

It was suggested to take this issue up fully at the January Advisory Committee meeting. Stephanie Alexander and Peggy Balak will follow up with Dr. Stedman and Ellen Holliman regarding this process.

Resolution on Use of Funds from Sale of the Dorothea Dix Hospital

Ellen Holliman presented the Resolution. Use of funds from sale of Dix property should be seen as an asset of the mental health system. If the Commission approves the Resolution, it should be sent to the Council of State and General Assembly, along with a list of the Commission members.

Marvin Swartz made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Floyd McCullouch seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

Rules Update

Stephanie Alexander explained the Rulemaking and Waiver Request Policies Procedures (handout).

The Division Affairs Team will develop a list of priorities for upcoming rules. There was a suggestion to have a 90-minute presentation by the Division Director, Don Willis and Peggy Balak at the November 24 Commission meeting regarding general policy context overview to prepare for upcoming year, and general rules overview.

New Concept on Group Homes for Older Disabled Persons

Dr. Stedman introduced Dennis Bradshaw, Executive Director of Residential Services, Inc. Mr. Bradshaw presented to the Committee members his experience with developing a group home for older disabled persons, using the assisted living concept. His home is very new and admitted their first residents the day before Hurricane Isabel occurred. He is interested in returning at a later date to let the members know how the home is progressing.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.